DK-US040809

### PATENT

## **IAP20**Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAY 2006

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Masahito HIGASHIDA

Serial No.: New – (National Phase of

PCT/JP2005/016306)

International filing date: September 6, 2005

For: FAN AND AIR CONDITIONER

(AS AMENDED)

#### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

French Patent Publication No. FR 2671834 and German Patent Publication No. DE 4140129 appear to disclose a volute housing for a centrifugal fan. English abstracts of corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,141,397 are attached to better understand these publications.

Japanese Utility Model Publication No. 61-36219 appears to disclose an air conditioner having a sirocco fan.

Japanese Utility Model Publication No. 63-118397 appears to disclose an air conditioner having a sirocco fan.

Japanese Laid-open Application No. 04-269399 appears to disclose a volute housing for a centrifugal fan. An English abstract is attached to better understand this publication.

Japanese Laid-open Application No. H05-17400 appears to disclose a centrifugal fan.

Japanese Laid-open Application No. 3303860 appears to disclose a centrifugal fan and air conditioner having a bell mouth and an impeller.

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International Patent Publication No. WO 0133144 appears to disclose a centrifugal

blower and an air conditioner.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. McCrosky Reg. No. 56,232

GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 (202)-293-0444

Dated: May 31, 2006

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known			
			Application Number	PCT/JP2005/016306		
			Filing Date	September 5 8 1 1 2 1		
			First Named Inventor	80. 20115		
			Group Art Unit			
			Examiner Name	MEC OPITIPM A TANK		
Sheet	1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	DK-US040809 1 11/AY 200		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant		
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US- 5,474,422-A	12-12-1995	Sullivan			
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Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY			T <sup>6</sup>
	FR-2671834-A1	07-24-1992	Sullivan		No
	GB-2251893-A	07-22-1992	Sullivan		N/A
	DE-4140129-A1	07-23-1992	Sullivan		No
	JP-61-36219-U	03-06-1986	Yoshimura		No
	JP-63-118397-U	07-30-1988	lwasaki		No
	JP-04-269399-A	09-25-1992	Sullivan		Yes
	JP-05-17400-B2	03-09-1993	Ito		No
	JP-3303860-B2	07-22-2002	Sanagi		No
	JP-2002-106945-A	04-10-2002	Fujiwara et al.		Yes
	WO-01/33144-A1	05-10-2001	Sanagi		No
		No.1 Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)  FR-2671834-A1  GB-2251893-A  DE-4140129-A1  JP-61-36219-U  JP-63-118397-U  JP-04-269399-A  JP-05-17400-B2  JP-3303860-B2  JP-2002-106945-A	No.1 Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) MM-DD-YYYY  FR-2671834-A1 07-24-1992 GB-2251893-A 07-22-1992 DE-4140129-A1 07-23-1992 JP-61-36219-U 03-06-1986 JP-63-118397-U 07-30-1988 JP-04-269399-A 09-25-1992 JP-05-17400-B2 03-09-1993 JP-3303860-B2 07-22-2002 JP-2002-106945-A 04-10-2002	Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Cite No.1         Country Code³ - Number⁴ - Kind Code⁵ (if known)         Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY         Applicant of Cited Document         Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear           FR-2671834-A1         07-24-1992         Sullivan           GB-2251893-A         07-22-1992         Sullivan           DE-4140129-A1         07-23-1992         Sullivan           JP-61-36219-U         03-06-1986         Yoshimura           JP-63-118397-U         07-30-1988         Iwasaki           JP-04-269399-A         09-25-1992         Sullivan           JP-05-17400-B2         03-09-1993         Ito           JP-3303860-B2         07-22-2002         Sanagi           JP-2002-106945-A         04-10-2002         Fujiwara et al.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>9</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is